

CLAIMS

1. A line tensioning device comprising:

an elongate body having a line locating region; and

5 a hook at a first end of the elongate body;

wherein, said hook maintains the line tensioning device in position after
rotation of the device to achieve a desired tension in said line.

2. The line tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the line locating region is of

10 reduced thickness compared with a remainder of the elongate body.

3. The line tensioning device of claim 1, further comprising at least one

aperture through the elongate body.

15 4. The line tensioning device of claim 3, wherein the at least one aperture is

through the line locating region of the elongate body.

5. The line tensioning device of claim 1, further comprising at least one

locking means for securing in position the line passing through one of the
20 apertures.

6. The line tensioning device of claim 5, wherein the locking means

comprises a pivotally mounted lever.

25 7. The line tensioning device of claim 6, wherein the lever is accommodated

in a slot in the elongate body.

8. The line tensioning device of claim 6, wherein the lever is biased towards a closed position by a biasing means.

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9. The line tensioning device of claim 6, wherein the lever comprises a serrated end for engaging the line.

10. The line tensioning device of claim 9, wherein the serrated end comprises a tooth that protrudes further from the end of the lever than remaining teeth of the serrated end.

11. The line tensioning device of claim 9, wherein the serrated end is gently curved.

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12. The line tensioning device of claim 6, wherein an upper profile of the lever matches an upper profile of the elongate body apart from a raised portion at an end of the lever nearest a pivot point of the lever.

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13. The line tensioning device of claim 8, wherein the biasing means urges the lever toward the closed position such that the serrated end engages the line passing through an adjacent aperture and forces the line against a post of the elongate body.

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14. The line tensioning device of claim 1, wherein the elongate body

comprises ribbed portions to aid gripping by a user.

15. A method of tensioning a line, said method including the steps of:

5 locating part of the line about a line locating region of an elongate body of a line tensioning device;

rotating the line tensioning device in a first direction of rotation until a desired tension is achieved in the line;

10 and maintaining the desired tension via a hook at a first end of the elongate body, said hook engaging the line and preventing rotation of the line tensioning device in a second direction of rotation opposite to the first direction of rotation.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein locating part of the line includes the step of threading an end of the line through an aperture in the line locating region.

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17. The method of claim 15, wherein locating part of the line includes the step of looping the line at least once around the line locating region.

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18. A method of tensioning a line having no free ends, said method including the steps of:

looping part of the line at least once around a line locating region of an elongate body of a line tensioning device;

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rotating the line tensioning device in a first direction of rotation until a desired tension is achieved in the line; and

maintaining the desired tension via a hook at a first end of the elongate body, said hook engaging the line and preventing rotation of the line tensioning device in a second direction of rotation opposite to the first direction of rotation.

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19. A method of tensioning a line having one free end, said method including

the steps of:

threading the free end of the line through an aperture in a line locating region of an elongate body of a line tensioning device;

10 looping part of the line at least once around the line locating region;

rotating the line tensioning device in a first direction of rotation until a desired tension is achieved in the line; and

maintaining the desired tension via a hook at a first end of the elongate body, said hook engaging the line and preventing rotation of the line tensioning device in a second direction of rotation opposite to the first

15 direction of rotation.

20. A method of tensioning a line having two free ends, said method including

the steps of:

20 threading the free ends of the line through a respective aperture in a line

locating region of an elongate body of a line tensioning device;

rotating the line tensioning device in a first direction of rotation until a desired tension is achieved in the line; and

maintaining the desired tension via a hook at a first end of the elongate body, said hook engaging the line and preventing rotation of the line

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tensioning device in a second direction of rotation opposite to the first direction of rotation.

21. A line tensioning device comprising:

- 5 an elongate body having a line locating region;
- a hook at a first end of the elongate body;
- at least one aperture through the line locating region; and
- locking means for securing in position the line passing through one of the apertures;

10 wherein, said hook maintains the line tensioning device in position after rotation of the device to achieve a desired tension in said line.